

**TRANSLATION**

**PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**

**PCT**

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY**

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>03PA0031 PCT</b>	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. <b>PCT/EP2004/005352</b>	International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) <b>18.05.2004</b>	Priority date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) <b>30.10.2003</b>
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC <b>A47L13/256, A47L13/254</b>		
Applicant <b>CARL FREUDENBERG KG</b>		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>6</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: a. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of _____ sheets, as follows: <input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/005352

## Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language \_\_\_\_\_, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 1-9 \_\_\_\_\_ as originally filed/furnished
- pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_
- pages\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ the claims:
- nos. 1-17 \_\_\_\_\_ as originally filed/furnished
- nos.\* \_\_\_\_\_ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- nos.\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_
- nos.\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_
- ☒ the drawings:
- sheets 1/6-6/6 \_\_\_\_\_ as originally filed/furnished
- sheets\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_
- sheets\* \_\_\_\_\_ received by this Authority on \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the claims, nos. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the claims, nos. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): \_\_\_\_\_

\* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/005352

Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1.	Statement		
	Novelty (N)	Claims	YES
		Claims 1, 3, 6, 11, 12, 16, 17	NO
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims	YES
		Claims 2, 4, 13	NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-17	YES
		Claims	NO
2.	Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)		
	Reference is made to the following documents:		
	D1: US-A-4 852 210 (KRAJICEK STEPHEN W)		
	1 August 1989 (1989-08-01).		
1.	<p>The present application fails to satisfy the requirements of PCT Article 33(1) because the subject matter of <b>claim 1</b> lacks novelty (PCT Article 33(2)).</p> <p>Document D1 discloses (see figures 6 and 7):</p> <p>a wiping plate for receiving an interchangeable wiping cloth 26, said wiping plate comprising a substantially plate-like support plate 9 with a body of foamed material 18 that can be secured to the underside and is elastically nonrigid (see page 2, lines 57-63), said body 18 of foamed material having at least one recess 25, in which at least one non-elastic gripper 22 is connected to the support plate 9, the height of said gripper being the same as or less than the height of the foamed material body in the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">/...</p>		

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

non-tensioned state, wherein the gripper 22 can be at least contacted with the side of the wiping cloth 26 facing away from the wiping surface by the application of pressure to the support plate 9 and the compressed body of foamed material.

In the plate according to D1, the body 18 of foamed material is elastically nonrigid (see page 2, lines 57-63). Claim 1 does not give a pressure value. By the application of an appropriate degree of pressure to the support plate 9 of the wiping plate according to D1 (figure 7), the gripper 22 can be contacted with the side of the wiping cloth 26 facing away from the wiping surface.

2. Dependent **claims 2-4, 6, 11-13, 16 and 17** do not contain any features which, combined with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the PCT requirements for novelty and/or inventive step. Said claims relate to structural modifications of the wiping plate according to D1 (figure 7).

Similar modifications are either disclosed in D1 (see claims 3, 6, 11, 12, 16, 17) or are of the kind that a person skilled in the art routinely makes on the basis of familiar considerations, especially since the resulting advantages are readily foreseeable.

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3. Contrary to PCT Rule 5.1(a)(ii), the description does not cite D1 or indicate the relevant prior art disclosed therein.